

AMERICAN FLAG RULES



LESSON SUMMARY

BENCHMARK
SS.1.CG.2.3 <i>Recognize ways citizens can demonstrate patriotism.</i>
BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Students will discuss appropriate ways to show respect during the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem (e.g., stand at attention, face the flag, pause conversations).■ Students will discuss how to show respect for the American flag (e.g., how to properly display and dispose of the American flag).■ Students will discuss how to demonstrate patriotism during patriotic holidays and observances (e.g., American Founders Month, Celebrate Freedom Week, Constitution Day, Independence Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Medal of Honor Day, Memorial Day, Patriot Day, Veterans Day).
CORRELATED FLORIDA STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ELA.1.C.3.1: <i>Follow the rules of standard English grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling appropriate to grade level.</i>■ ELA.1.C.5.1: <i>Use a multimedia element to enhance oral or written tasks.</i>■ ELA.1.V.1.1: <i>Use grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately in speaking and writing.</i>
ESSENTIAL QUESTION
How do we show respect for the American flag?
VOCABULARY
American flag, respect, rules
MATERIALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ American Flag (preferably outside on a flagpole)■ American Flag Rules slides■ American Flag Rules response sheet■ American Flag Rules digital sort■ Coloring supplies

ACTIVITY SEQUENCE

INTRODUCTION/HOOK

1. Take your students on a short “field trip” to the appropriate spot in your school building for an observational activity using the flagpole/American flag.
2. Once your class is gathered around the flag, ask students the following questions:
 - a. Where are some of the places you have seen the American flag being flown?
 - b. What are some things you notice about how the flag is displayed?
 - c. Have all the American flags you have seen been flying the same way? Have any been upside down?
 - d. Is this flag ripped or torn?
 - e. Have you ever seen the flag flying only halfway up the flagpole?
3. Explain to students that the reason the flag looks a certain way and is flown a certain way is because we have American flag rules that we follow. Today, we are going to go back inside and learn about some of these rules.

ACTIVITY

4. Once back inside, reiterate with students that our country has American flag rules that tell us the correct ways to display and treat the flag. Just like rules that citizens follow to show respect to others, following these rules help citizens show respect to the American flag. Respecting the flag demonstrates patriotism, or love/loyalty for one's country.
5. Display the “American Flag Rules” slides. Introduce students to the correct (proper) ways to display, take down, store, and dispose of the American flag. Utilize the Speaker Notes in the slide deck for critical content information for each step.
6. Review the correct(proper) ways to display the American flag by completing the “American Flag Rules” digital sort as a whole class. Students may vote for “correct” (thumbs up) or “incorrect” (thumbs down) or you can have the students move to the side of the classroom that aligns with the category they believe the scenario card fits in.

CLOSURE/FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

7. Pass out the “American Flag Rules” response sheet. Instruct students to write down one way to show respect for the American flag and create an illustration in the box to support their response.

Teacher Note: A sentence frame is included in the directions and the second page displays the frame on the primary writing lines. If needed, you may also write the sentence frame on the board or project the response sheet to develop a model for students.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

FJCC/LFI Website

Read aloud for the American flag:

- *Red, White, and Blue: The Story of the American Flag* by John Herman
- *The Flag We Love* by Pam Munoz Ryan

Supporting Florida State Statutes:

- [Florida State Statute 1003.44: Patriotic Programs](#)
- [Florida State Statute 1003.42: Required Instruction](#)

Supporting United States Code:

- [United States Code, 2006 Edition, Supplement 5, Title 4 - FLAG AND SEAL, SEAT OF GOVERNMENT, AND THE STATES](#)

ANSWER KEYS

“American Flag Rules” digital sort answer key

SOURCES

Flag Code information: <https://www.usa.gov/flag>